

REMARKS

Reexamination and reconsideration of claims 74, 76, 78-80, and consideration of new claims 81-90, are respectfully requested. Claims 75 and 77 have been cancelled. The recognition of allowable subject matter in claims 77, 78, and 80 is acknowledged with appreciation. Additionally, the Examiner's acknowledgement of Applicant's Information Disclosure Statement is appreciated.

Claim 79 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. sec. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Claim 79 has been amended to remove any indefiniteness that may have existed. Withdrawal of the sec. 112 rejection, second paragraph, of claim 79 is respectfully requested.

Claims 74-76 and 79 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. sec. 103(a) applying U.K. Pat. App. No. 2,277,812 ('812) without a teaching reference. Claim 74 has been amended to incorporate the allowable subject matter of claim 77. Withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. sec. 103(a) rejection of claims 74, 76 and 79 is respectfully requested.

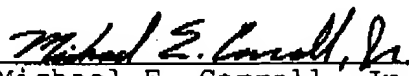
Claims 75 and 76 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. sec. 103(a) applying the '812 Pat. App. in view of Grenier. For the reasons stated above, withdrawal of the 35 U.S.C. sec. 103(a) rejection of claim 76 is respectfully requested.

No new fees are believed due in connection with this Reply. Nine new claims were added; two independent claims for a total of three independent claims and eight dependent claims for a total of seventeen claims in the RCE. If any fees are due in connection with this Reply, please charge any fees, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number 19-2167.

Allowance of all pending claims is believed to be warranted and is respectfully requested.

The Examiner is welcomed to telephone the undersigned to discuss the merits of this patent application.

Respectfully submitted,


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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

74. (amended) An optical-fiber [Optical-fiber] transmission system, comprising a cable closure body and fiber optic cables, said system further comprising:

(a) cable lead-in spigots, said cable lead-in spigots being attached to said cable closure body and being in communication with an interior space of the closure body;

(b) said fiber optic cables comprising waveguide-receiving pipes and optical waveguides, said waveguide-receiving pipes respectively having at least one optical waveguide therein, said waveguide-receiving pipes being respectively associated with said lead-in spigots; and

(c) said waveguide-receiving pipes being connected to said lead-in spigots by respective sealing connections, said waveguide-receiving pipes terminating at said sealing connection and being disposed exteriorly of said closure body interior space, and respective said waveguides passing said sealing connections and entering said closure body interior space, wherein said sealing connections comprise respective sleeves having respective interior surfaces, said interior surfaces fittingly contacting said lead-in spigots and said waveguide-receiving pipes.

Please cancel claims 75 without prejudice.

Please cancel claim 77 without prejudice.

79. (amended) The system of claim 74, said interior space of said closure body comprising a [an arcuate] base section, said base section having a domed shape.